



# Allotment Management Plan for the West Deer Creek Allotment

## Escalante Ranger District – Dixie National Forest – Region 4

**Management Plan Prepared by:**

  
Rangeland Management Specialist

**Date:** 03/23/2009

Reviewed By:

H. O. L. L. Q. T.  
Dell Lefevre (Permittee)

Date: 3/12/09

**Approved by:**

*Georgina Campman*  
Georgina Campman (District Ranger)

**Date:** 03/24/2009

**This Allotment Management Plan is hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit and is incorporated in Part 3 of that permit.**

**West Deer Creek Allotment Management Plan  
Escalante Ranger District  
Dixie National Forest**

**Description**

Authorization to graze livestock on the West Deer Creek allotment is granted through a term grazing permit with on and off provisions which means that this allotment contains both National Forest lands and lands owned or controlled by the livestock grazing permittee. The West Deer Creek allotment consists of approximately 20 acres of Forest Service land. This land is part of an improved pasture which receives irrigation throughout the summer months and is periodically tilled and reseeded to pasture grasses. Without irrigation the site would revert to a Pinyon-Juniper vegetation type which covers the area surrounding the pasture.

**History**

To the best of our knowledge, from what few records we have on file and from talking with local people, the current boundaries of on/off allotments are a result of homestead fencing prior to any knowledge of public land boundaries. At the time these homesteads, which fenced in portions of public land, were essential to the existence of the families who lived on these homesteads. As a result the forest service issued special use permits for the use of these public lands up to approximately 1976 when it was deemed that special use permits were no longer appropriate to authorize this type of use of public lands. At that time the use of these lands was then authorized through a term grazing permit with on and off provisions and has been to this day. During FY2008 the Dixie National Forest Escalante Ranger District conducted an analysis, using a Categorical Exclusion, for authorizing continued grazing on the West Deer Creek allotment. This was done simply to comply with the Rescission Act of 1995 and did not change the management of this allotment. Therefore much of the language in this Allotment Management Plan (AMP) is similar to the language found in the AMP that was signed in 1976.

**Current Management**

The West Deer Creek allotment is comprised of one pasture and has no range improvements associated with the grazing permit. The current authorization and management is for 7 head of cattle, cow/calf, with a period of use from 6/1 to 10/30 (35 Head Months or 46 Animal Unit Months). When the permittees are growing hay on the hay land they do not allow cattle into the pasture area. This is usually from about 6/1 to 8/10. The dates are tentative and dependent upon the amount of water available for irrigation. The period the cattle are permitted to graze will be from 6/1 to 10/31 and at the discretion of the permittee as long as the condition of the site is held at good as determined by the Forest Officer in charge. Monitoring, in the form of photographs, should be conducted periodically.

**Multiple Use Coordination**

This allotment adds a pastoral scene to a site which would be an unbroken stand of p-j without the small farms in the area. The only other use of the area would be an occasional hunter or back packer. No coordination problems are foreseen in the use continuing as is.